PATENT Atty. Dkt. No. MRKS/0039.C1

Atty. Dkt. 1

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Atty. Dkt. 1

In re Application of:

Georg-Pietras

Serial No.: 10/621,971

Confirmation No.: 2036

Filed:

July 17, 2003

For:

APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR FACILITATING THE CONNECTION OF TUBULARS

USING A TOP DRIVE

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Group Art Unit: 3672

Examiner: Frank Tsay

Customer No. 36735

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING 37 CFR 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on August, 2004.

William B. Patterson Typed Name

Signature

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION DATED MAY 20, 2004

In response to the Office Action dated May 20, 2004, having a shortened statutory period for response set to expire on August 20, 2004, please enter this response and reconsider the claims pending in the application for reasons discussed below. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge counsel's Deposit Account No. 20-0782/MRKS0039.C1/WBP the fee of \$ 214.00 for 7 additional claims, and for any fees, including extension of time fees, necessary to make this response timely and acceptable to the Office.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 6 of this paper.

08/27/2004 RMEBRAHT 00000016 200782 10621971

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